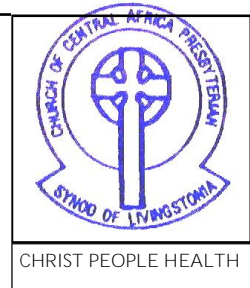


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VOLUME 4 ISSUE 5

MARCH 2010

DGM HOSPITAL CLOCKS 100 YEARS

PRAYER ITEMS

- Thank God for providing a clinician to go to Tcharo Health Centre
- Thank God that the hospital has continued to operate despite facing financial hardships
- Pray that God should guide our colleagues (Mrs J Soko and Mrs UV Brownlie) who are on overseas trip on behalf of the hospital

David Gordon Memorial Hospital has clocked 100 year of existence. Celebrations to mark the event are proposed to take place in September. A local committee has been established at hospital level. This committee will team up with the other committee formed by the Livingstonia Mission Station. The committee will be responsible for liaising with the Synod Secretariat on the preparations. The hospital is chaired by the Hospital Administrator, Lutiel Luhana. The theme for the celebration will be 'Safe motherhood'

The main committee will be meeting shortly to map up the way forward and to compose an activity budget which will be shared with all stakeholders.

The foundation stone of the Hospital was laid in 1910 on 11th February. The Hospital was built in memory of Reverend David Gordon with financial assistance from Jane and Isabel Gordon. The Hospital had by 1914 seen 6,843 outpatients and carried out 59 surgical operations. A much larger hospital was planned but only a 16-bed hospital was built due to financial constraints. Thirteen small hospitals and dispensaries were established by Livingstonia Mission in the northern Malawi during 1903 and 1905.

At present the hospital has grown to 135 bed capacity in four wards. It has an average daily bed occupancy of 65 patients. It caters for referral population of about 90,000. Our Out Patient Department sees about 45 patients every day. We operate in a community heavily laden with disease and pov-



Main entrance to the hospital

erty burden. Over 60% of the population live below poverty line. Our Maternity wing conducts an average of 55 deliveries in a month while our theatre does 31 Caesarian Section in a month. Malaria in under five children, Pneumonia and AIDS are the highest killer disease in our catchment area. We have a vibrant Primary Health Care department responsible for all community based initiative in the catchment area.

FINALLY TCHARO HEALTH CENTRE HAS A NEW CLINICIAN

Finally Tcharo Health Centre has a clinician, Macpherson Nyirongo. He joined the hospital at the beginning of March 2010. He is currently undergoing orientation at the main Hospital at Livingstonia.

Mr Nyirongo has replaced Mr Jonathan Chipeta who retired from service in November 2006. Mr Nyirongo comes with 42 years experience in the health professional.

Tcharo is one of the four health Centres under DGM Hospital. It is situated to the far south – eastern corner of the catchment area. Located between the lake and a range of hills stretching along the Lake Malawi from Nkhata-Bay to Rumphu.

The only means of transport to Tcharo is by MV Ilala (Ship) which makes weekly trips to through Tcharo /Mlowe areas. In order to alleviate transport

problem the hospital will allocate a boat at Tcharo Health Centre for patients referral and logistical support to health centre.



SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

“ But I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted , strengthen thy brethren”

Luke 22 v 32

The Holy Bible

INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES FOR ORPHAN SUPPORT

In order to widen the financial base for the orphan care Programme the Primary Health Care has established Income Generating Activities. So far a Maizemill is operational and plans are at an advanced stage to establish a Curios shop at the heart of Livingstonia Mission.



Currently our orphan care Programme is kindly supported by well-wishers. A gesture greatly appreciated by the Hospital Executive Committee and entire staff. The establishment of the IGAs will supplement the partner's support to the Programme.

The number of orphans have continued to rise tremendously. We are supporting orphans from day one of birth to 18 years of age. In some cases we lift the veil on the age barrier by extending support to orphans over the maximum age. They are supported with Formular Milk, Clothing, accommodation, fees.



We are supporting 92 orphans in Secondary Schools, 18 in tertiary colleges. We are also supporting 9 pre-school establishment in our catchment area.

HIV/AIDS is the highest cause of orphan hood in our area.

In picture Top: Maizemill IGA at Livingstonia. Bottom: Members of child headed family residing to Chitimba.

Readers Response

Readers are encouraged to feel free to comment on issues raised in this Newsletter.

Please let us know if you know someone who may be interested in receiving this Newsletter. Do not hesitate to inform us if you do not want another edition of this Newsletter in future.

All correspondences and donations must be forwarded to :

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MALAWI

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Correspondences and donations from United Kingdom and United States of America can also be channeled through Presbyterian Church Ireland Office +44022890322284

Livingstonia Hospital Partnership
(www.livingstonia.org.uk)

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Presbyterian Church of American Office

STAFF PROFILE: FRANCIS ZAKAZAKA

Francis Zakazaka, 35 is employed as a boatman currently stationed at Mlowe Health Centre. He joined the hospital in 2003. The ambulance boat is primarily operated between Mlowe and Tcharo areas but in some cases to as far as northern part of Nkhata-Bay district.

He works with two colleagues, Mailos Kalua and Chimaliro. Francis and Mailos are qualified able bodied seamen.

Boatmen are responsible for providing transport along the Lakeshore areas to Mlowe where they are collected by vehicle ambulance to Livingstonia. They



also pick and deliver patients and supplies to the health centres and take staff to and

from the two Health Centre.

Francis is originally from Tcharo. He has vast experience in local fishing and has valuable knowledge of the local winds on Lake Malawi. Those who have been on the boat know exactly what I am talking about.

Francis is married to Joice Nyirenda and are blessed with three kids; Tyson, Monings and Thanks. The eldest is 13 years old while the youngest is 3 years old.

Currently the hospital has two boats Robert Laws and Good Hope. The latter will be stationed at Tcharo. Good Hope was kindly built by Macduff Shipyard.

